## Smutty Wheat is a Menace

The Facts "Stinking smut" of wheat (known also as "bunt", or "ball smut") is increasing in Western Canada. The grain inspection records tell the story.

Smutty Wheat
1927
1,012,094 bushels
2,876,239 bushels
4,042,239 bushels

Smut losses are heaviest in the Durum varieties.

| Percentage of Smutty Durum | 1927 | 1928 | 1929 | 2.6% | 5.5% | 16.5% |

On every car of smutty wheat you lose approximately \$130.00. At the cost of 35 cents you can treat 50 bushels of seed wheat with formalin and insure your crop against smut.

## The Treatment

- Before treating, pass the seed grain through the fanning mill to remove the bunt balls. Use plenty of air; feed the grain slowly; make a good job.
- Prepare the treating solution by adding 1 pound of formalin to 30 Imperial gallons of water, or 1 Imperial pint of formalin to 40 Imperial gallons of water. Measure both formalin and water accurately.
- 3. If you have a Grain Pickler use it; if not, observe the following directions.
- 4. The night before sowing, place the grain on the granary floor or in a wagon box and spread it out in a low pile about it inches deep. Sprinkle the formalin solution over the grain. Then showed the grain into a low the pile and sprinkle again. Repeat this process until each kernel is moist. Forty gallons of solution will treat 50 bushles of grain.
- Heap the grain into a pile, and cover it with blankets or bags moistened with the treating solution to keep in the fumes. Leave the grain covered for at least 4 hours; then seed as soon as possible.
- 6. If all bunt balls cannot be removed by fanning, reat as follows: Pour the grain slowly into a tank of the formalin solution; sit vigorously to bring the bunt balls to the surface; then skint them off; drain off the solution; shovel the grain into a pile; cover for at least 4 hours; and seed as soon as the grain will run through drill.

## Things to Remember

- Clean floors, bins, wagon boxes, bags and drills with some of the treating solution; this will prevent the grain from becoming contaminated again after treatment.
- Keep all formalin containers tightly closed. Do not make up at one time more solution than you will require for the day.
- Do not let moist treated grain freeze.
- Treat all Durum wheat with formalin solution. Copper carbonate dust should be used only for treating common wheat which is slightly contaminated. Bluestone treatment is no longer recommended.
- Treat this year even if your grain appears to be clean. Prevention is the easiest and cheapest method of smut control.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION WRITE

The Dominion Rust Research Laboratory, Agricultural College, WINNIPEG

or the Division of Botany, Central Experimental Farm, OTTAWA

FOLLOW THESE DIRECTIONS CAREFULLY TREAT YOUR GRAIN AND PROTECT YOUR CROP

Division of Botany

**Dominion Experimental Farms**